

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Done at Opelika

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Tuskegee Baptist Association

HELD WITH THE

CHURCH AT OPELIKA, ALA.

OCTOBER 4th, 5th, and 6th, 1883.

OFFICERS:

WADDY THOMPSON,.....MODERATOR.....Tuskegee, Ala.
REV. C. W. BUCK,.....CLERK,.....Columbus, Ga.
E. W. SOLOMONS,.....TREASURER,.....Salem, Ala.

COLUMBUS, G.A.:

Thos. Gilbert, Printer, Book-Binder, and Paper Box Manufacturer.

1883.

W. C. CLEVELAND.

JNO. L. WEST.

JOHN L. WEST & Co.,

—PUBLISHERS OF THE—

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ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Opening Services.
2. Read Letters from Churches and Enroll Delegates.
3. Invite Ministers of our Order to Seats with us.
4. Organize by Electing Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer.
5. Call for Petitionary Letters.
6. Receive Correspondents from Sister Associations.
7. Appoint Committees on Preaching, Auditing, Documents and State of Religion, Finance, Missions, Sunday Schools, Education, Temperance, and Deceased Ministers.
8. Appoint Correspondence to Sister Associations.
9. Appoint Delegates to State Convention.
10. Hear Report of the Executive Committee.
11. Hear Report of any other Committee appointed last Session.
12. Elect the Executive Committee.
13. Hear Reports from the Several Committees appointed this Session.
14. Hear Treasurer's Report, and Report of the Auditing Committee.
15. Determine where the next Session of the Association will be held.
16. Arrange for Printing of Minutes, and Distribution.
17. Miscellaneous Business.
18. Closing Exercises.

LIST OF MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

Rev. Z. D. Roby, D.D.,...Opelika, Ala.	Rev. G. D. Benton,.....Crawford, Ala.
“ K Taylor,.....Opelika, Ala.	“ T. M. Hart,Tuskegee, Ala.
“ F. A. Threadgill,....Opelika, Ala.	“ F. T. Hudson,.....Tuskegee, Ala.
“ W. E. Lloyd,.....Auburn, Ala.	“ D. S. Duffee, _____, Ala.
“ C. W. Buck,.....Crawford, Ala.	“ Jno. J. Cloud,.....LaPlace, Ala.
“ J. L. Revel,Crawford, Ala.	

LICENTIATES.

W. T. Huguley,.....Salem, Ala.	H. C. Saunders,.....Opelika, Ala.
R. A. Tillery,Mott's Mill, Ala.	Jno. Knowles,.....Columbus, Ga.

MINUTES.

OPELIKA, LEE Co., ALA., October 4, 1883.

The thirty-eighth session of the TUSKEGEE ASSOCIATION convened with the Opelika Baptist Church on Thursday, October 4th, 1883.

The appointee, to preach the Introductory Sermon, being absent, the Committee on Preaching requested Rev. W. M. Blackwelder to fill the vacancy, at $7\frac{1}{2}$ P. M. Bro. Blackwelder preached at the appointed hour, to a large congregation, from 2 Tim. iv. 7, 8.

Opening religious services was conducted by Elder G. E. Brewer, of the Liberty Association. Opening prayer by Elder W. E. Lloyd.

At $10\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock A. M., Hon. Waddy Thompson, of Tuskegee, the former Moderator, called the Association to order.

C. W. Buck, the former Clerk, being present.

The letters from the churches were called for and read.

Brethren G. E. Brewer and W. E. Lloyd read the letters, at the request of the Moderator; and the names of the delegates present were recorded, as follows:

Elam—Chas. Huguley, L. A. Wright.

Oswichee—J. C. Cheney, Jno. Stratford.

Craford—Rev. J. L. Revel, Rev. G. D. Benton, J. W. Grimes, Jas. H. Bickerstaff.

County Line—E. Adams, W. Smith.

La Place—W. T. B. Linch, E. M. Swearengen.

Rocky Mount—Jas. Sims, Jos. Phipps.

Friendship—The pastor and letter.

Pleasant Grove—H. P. Johnson, D. P. Meadors.

Philadelphia—Rev. C. W. Buck, W. A. J. White, W. F. Thompson.

Liberty—D. M. Pitts, R. B. Wright.

Girard—J. H. Mathews, Walter Bray.

Salem—E. W. Solomons, Wm. Saunders, Dr. D. W. Floyd.

Brownsville—W. E. Hughes, — Abner.

Auburn—Chas. Little, A. M. McElhaney, Rev. W. E. Lloyd.

Providence—J. F. Long, Jno. Bailey.

Concord—Rev. F. T. Hudson, Robt. Jennings.

Notasulga—A. G. Simpson, Jos. Vaughn, Jno. Carroll.

Tuskegee—Rev. T. W. Hart, W. Thompson, Esq., A. L. Brooks.

Loachapoka—N. G. Macon, O. D. Cox, R. J. Spradling.

Cubahatchee—E. S. MeWhorter.

Mount Lebanon—E. Calhoun.

Antioch—J. F. Johns, S. W. Harris, M. D.

Union Grove—W. G. Whitman, S. Jarrell.

Society Hill—John Richardson.

Opelika—Rev. Z. D. Roby, Rev. F. A. Threadgill, Dr. A. N. Adams, G. W. Dawson, J. C. Condon, W. M. Hopson.

Seale—The pastor and letter.

An election being ordered to choose the officers for the present term, the same officers were re-elected, as follows:

For Moderator—WADDY THOMPSON, Esq.

For Clerk—Rev. C. W. BUCK.

For Treasurer—E. W. SOLOMONS.

Petition letters were called for. None.

Delegates from Corresponding bodies reported, as follows:

Liberty Association—Rev. G. E. Brewer, Rev. W. M. Blackwelder, Rev. John Bledsoe, Rev. William Bledsoe, W. R. Dawson, W. Buckalew, W. Autrey, J. B. Barrow, J. D. Norman, G. W. Shealey, A. F. Stanley, W. E. Shealey, G. W. Shelton, T. W. Eckles, A. R. Frederick, M. D., John Hester, J. P. Seroyer.

Columbus, Ga.—Rev. C. C. Willis.

On motion, adjourned to 2 o'clock p. m. Benediction by Rev. Z. D. Roby, D. D.

AFTERNOON, 2 O'CLOCK.

The Association being called to order, after singing, the Report of the Executive Committee was called for, read and adopted, as follows:

The Executive Committee of this Association met in Opelika on the 11th of December last. Only two of the members were present. Brethren Roby and Condon were requested to aid us in arranging business for the present year.

An effort was made to secure the co-operation of the churches at Brownsville and Girard in employing a pastor to serve both churches—the Committee proposing to pledge the aid of the Association in his support. We failed to effect the arrangement.

It was agreed that Bro. D. S. Duffee, Missionary of the Association, should continue his work the same as last year, and should receive for his salary \$600, provided it was raised in his field of work.

It was ordered that the amount subscribed for Ministerial Education,

at the last Association, should be forwarded to the Treasurer of Howard College as soon as paid to the Treasurer of the Association.

We recommend the discontinuance of the Executive Committee, and ask that an Advisory Committee of three, be appointed, whose duty it shall be to correspond with our State Board in reference to the work and necessities of this Association.

W. E. LLOYD, *Chairman.*

In the absence of the appointees on Standing Committees to report at this session, the Moderator appointed as follows:

ON EDUCATION—Rev. F. A. Threadgill.

ON TEMPERANCE—J. C. Condon.

ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS—A. G. Simpson.

The Moderator appointed the following Committees, to report at this session of the Association:

ON PREACHING—Pastor and delegates of Opelika Church, with Brethren A. G. Simpson, E. S. McWhorter and R. Jennings.

ON AUDITING COMMITTEE—Dr. A. N. Adams, G. W. Dawson and D. P. Meadors.

ON FINANCE—James Bickerstaff, J. C. Cheney and J. H. Mathews.

ON DECEASED MINISTERS—Rev. F. T. Hudson, J. C. Condon and W. M. Hopson.

ON DOCUMENTS AND STATE OF RELIGION—W. T. B. Lineh and Rev. D. S. Duffee.

On motion, Rev. D. S. Duffee was called on for a report of his work as missionary within the Association.

REPORT OF EVANGELIST.

Your Association Evangelist begs leave to submit the following statement of his work since your last session:

My field of labor extended across Lee, Russell, and Macon counties. I have preached monthly to eight churches and one out station. In so doing, I have traveled 4,032 miles; preached 121 sermons; made 335 family visits; visited 14 other churches; baptized, 10; received by letter, 20; secured 4 subscribers for the *Alabama Baptist*; and have secured on my salary, in cash and pledges, \$500.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. S. DUFFEE, *Association Evangelist.*

Bro. Duffee made some interesting statements in connection with his work; devoting his entire time to his work, without one dollar of expense to the Association, having secured his salary from his work, in a field that, two years ago, was, much of it, entirely destitute of preaching.

Rev. G. D. Benton, being called on, rendered the following:
REPORT OF COLPORTER.

I herein hand you my report of work in Tuskegee Association, as Colporter, and as Missionary pastor at Girard, Ala.:

Books and pamphlets sold, 476; value of books and pamphlets sold, \$288.48; pages of tracts distributed, 262; Bibles and Testaments given away, 7; visits to families, 239; sermons preached, 41; received by letter, 5; baptized, 1; restored, 1; taken under watch care, 1; addresses made, 4; days of labor, about 75; miles traveled, 775.

Respectfully submitted.

G. D. BENTON.

Bro. Benton gave some interesting facts regarding the Colportage work, its interest and success. The people will buy and read, when taken to them.

Brethren Brewer and Roby spoke upon the subject, urging the dissemination of our denominational literature.

Appointed Correspondence to—

Liberty Association—To meet with Bethel Church, Lee county, Ala., Wednesday, 24th September, 1884—C. W. Buck, O. D. Cox, F. T. Hudson, G. W. Dawson, W. E. Lloyd, A. N. Adams, R. Jennings.

Columbus, Ga.—To meet with Valley Grove Church, Wednesday, Sept. 24th, 1884—E. W. Solomons, G. D. Benton, W. T. B. Linch, G. W. Huguley.

Tallapoosa River—Salem Church, Friday before 4th Sabbath in October, 1883—Waddy Thompson, A. L. Brooks, A. G. Simpson, N. G. Macon, L. A. Wright, O. D. Cox, F. T. Hudson, Robt. Jennings.

State Convention—Meets at Tuscaloosa, Ala., July, 1884—W. E. Lloyd, C. W. Buck, Z. D. Roby, G. D. Benton, D. S. Duffee, T. W. Hart, A. L. Brooks, Prof. W. B. Fonville, S. Foster.

On motion of J. C. Cheney, it was determined to have no preaching except at night.

On motion, adjourned to $9\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock A. M. Friday.

FRIDAY MORNING, $9\frac{1}{2}$ o'CLOCK.

Religious service was conducted by Rev. D. S. Duffee. Prayer by Rev. C. C. Willis, of Georgia.

On motion of Bro. Roby, Brethren Thomas Glenn, H. C. Clarke and W. C. Carter be recognized as representatives from the Auburn (colored) Baptist Association, and are invited to seats with us.

Report on Aged and Infirm Ministers was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT ON AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS.

At the last meeting of the Alabama Baptist State Convention, we agreed that the collection and distribution of funds for the relief of aged and infirm ministers, and the widows and orphans of deceased ministers,

who need help, be entrusted to the State Mission Board. This is now made one of the general objects of benevolence, and the Board asks the churches to contribute during the year to this object not less than \$1,000. We are not aware that there is any case now within the bounds of this Association requiring help, but scattered about over the State there are many, and we hope the Tuskegee Association will not fail to do a full share in providing for the worn-out ministers of the gospel.

We recommend that each of the churches composing this body be requested to contribute regularly and liberally to our Indigent Ministers' fund, and that their contributions be sent to Rev. T. M. Baily, Secretary and Treasurer State Mission Board, Marion, Ala.

Respectfully submitted.

W. E. HUDMON,
Z. D. ROBY.

The subject was very earnestly and enthusiastically spoken upon by Brethren Brewer, John Bledsoe, Roby, Willis, Cheney, Lloyd and others; after which a collection was taken up amounting to \$30.

The Report on Temperance was read, as follows:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee regret that we have not had more time to give to the preparation of this report, because of its great importance, and the necessity of our taking some more active means in establishing "Bible temperance" throughout the land. Your Committee would suggest that the season for temporizing with this monster evil and father of crime has passed. For forty years we have been endeavoring to check its fruit of destruction by striking it with the pruning hook of moral suasion, but it has thrust up from its roots with renewed energies, and taken a more formidable hold upon the interests both of our churches and country. Intemperance is the terrible "Upas" of America, whose leaves send forth pestilence throughout the land, and whose fruit is death. Death to civil prosperity; death to moral and spiritual power; death to Christian influence.

It needs no argument now. Its terrible form among us is enough to appall the strongest heart. The interest and life of our homes—our children—our communities—our churches—our souls—calls for the axe, and the cry from every interest is to strike, not at the branches, but let every blow fall at its roots, that its very presence shall be removed.

The needs of God's cause, the interest and welfare of his church, demands prohibition—total and immediate eradication—root, body, branch, leaves and fruit—of even its very appearance from our midst. The terrible cry that comes from a perishing world to us, and through us, to God, as their surest help, calls upon us as *His* people—*His light* to the world—for definite and effective action upon this subject. The Church of Christ, the cause of humanity, the salvation of the world, demands of us to use every legitimate means in our reach for the suppression of this monster sin.

We believe that *Church* and *Legal* prohibition is the necessity of the time, and we most earnestly suggest to this Association that we take such action, and so express ourselves upon this subject as will place our influence for God, and against this sin. J. C. CONDOX, *Chairman.*

Brethren Brewer and Lloyd spoke very strongly in support of the report, and with telling effect upon their hearers.

Bro. Brewer declared it was no longer a question of mere

expediency, but of obligation and duty, both in Church and State.

Bro. Lloyd said: "Our fathers 'sowed to the winds,' by preaching and practicing the moderate use of intoxicants, and now 'we are reaping the whirlwind,' in the awful harvest of intemperance."

On motion of Bro. Threadgill, That the regular order of business be changed, and the further discussion of the report be set for 3 o'clock P. M., and that Bro. Buck be requested to speak upon the subject of the report at that hour.

Bro. Roby announced Rev. T. W. Hart to preach the Missionary Sermon at $7\frac{1}{2}$ this P. M.

On motion, adjourned to $2\frac{1}{2}$ P. M. Benediction by Rev. C. W. Buck.

FRIDAY, $2\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock P. M.

Opened with religious service by Bro. Blackwelder. Prayer by Bro. Bledsoe.

Report on Deceased Ministers read and adopted:

Your Committee are thankful to our heavenly Father that we are not called upon to report the death of any of his ministering servants within the bounds of this Association, s'nce our last session.

Respectfully submitted.

F. T. Hudson, *Chairman.*

The special hour for the further discussion of the Temperance Report having arrived, Rev. T. F. Threadgill spoke for a few minutes; after which Bro. Buck discussed

PROHIBITION AS A BIBLE PRINCIPLE.

God's whole moral law is, "prohibition" from every evil: idolatry, murder, theft, adultery, lying, drunkenness—and from the very appearance of evil.

On motion, the report was adopted by a rising vote. Expressing a purpose to support the principle and practice of Prohibition, in Church and State.

The Report on Religious Literature was read and adopted; as follows:

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

We fear the Bible is read but little by the mass of professing Christians, far too little to give familiarity with its teachings. Are there not scores of our brethren who do not read as much as one chapter a week? Are

there not hundreds who fail to read as much as one chapter a day in God's Book?

The Bible is to us the source of all religious truth, and is therefore the most important of all books to be read. Our failure to read it accounts for the fact that we are "ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth;" and our people, in many localities, are tossed to and fro by every wind and doctrine, religious errorists having succeeded in stampeding them because they were not strong in a knowledge of God's word. Paul declares the Bereans to be more noble than they of Thessalonica, "in that they received the word with all readiness of mind and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so."

"The ox knoweth his owner and the ass his master's crib, but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider," was the lament of the prophet.

The world is full of religious literature—books, large and small—doctrinal and preceptive, profound and simple, costly and cheap, adapted to every age and condition, are scattered by the thousands, broadcast, over the earth. Reviews and magazines, papers, cards, and tracts, like the leaves of autumn, almost literally shower into every home in this land. The design is the explanation and illustration of divine truth to the understanding of the people and the enforcement of its observance by them. How "thoroughly furnished we are unto all good works." Our State Board is engaged in no work that gives us more hope for the future than the system of endowed colportage which it is fast completing.

To think that Alabama Baptists are soon to have a permanent fund of two or three thousand dollars, to be constantly employed in supplying our people with denominational and religious literature, is something to rejoice over.

Our publishing department is fully up to the demand of the times; a better denominational library can be bought of the American Baptist Publication Society, for one dollar, than can be found in the homes of half of our brethren.

The *Alabama Baptist* should be read by every family connected with this Association. *Kind Words*, with its excellent outfit for Sunday Schools, deserves in a high degree, the support of the denomination. The *Foreign Journal* imparts such information about the cause of Christ in distant parts of the earth as we all need. Let us subscribe for these papers, and not only read them ourselves, but have our families to read them, to the glory of God.

W. E. LLOYD, *Chairman.*

This subject was ably discussed by Brethren Roby, Bledsoe, Willis and others.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock A. M. Prayer by Rev. John Bledsoe.

FRIDAY, $7\frac{1}{2}$ O'CLOCK P. M.

Rev. T. W. Hart preached the Annual Sermon. Subject: The Transfiguration of Christ.

SATURDAY, 9 O'CLOCK A. M.

Religious service conducted by Rev. F. T. Hudson. Prayer by A. J. White.

Minutes read and corrected.

Report on Missions adopted, as follows :

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

"The world for Christ" should be the motto of every true servant of our Redeemer. We suppose this to be, to some extent, the grand aim of every organization established for Missionary purposes. We take this to be the high object of our Southern Baptist Convention, our respective State Conventions, and our District Associations. "The world for Christ." Let this be the inspiring sentiment of the Tuskegee Association.

HOW THIS OBJECT IS TO BE OBTAINED.

But how is this great object to be obtained? We know that no human might nor power can accomplish this end, independent of the Divine Spirit, and yet we believe it is not the purpose of God to accomplish this great work apart from human agency. It must be done by God's "working within us to will and to do his good pleasure." And if we find ourselves unwilling to work, there is a doubt as to the genuineness of our discipleship. In this work we should act, under God, as though everything depended upon us.

WISE AND CONSECRATED LEADERS ARE NECESSARY IN THIS GREAT
UNDERTAKING.

Every man and every society cannot run an independent schedule. We must prayerfully *co-operate* with those whom we have placed in these responsible positions, *giving heed to their calls upon us*, and follow them as they follow the footprints of our Lord. It is necessary that we should esteem it a *privilege* to sacrifice for the cause of Him who sacrificed so much for us. We should realize more fully the fact that all that is *really worth doing, is what we do for God.*

OUR BOARDS.

There are three Missionary boards which look to our Association for assistance in extending the Redeemer's kingdom in the world. It would make this paper entirely too long to give all the statistics relating to each of these boards. Only a little can here be said about each.

STATE MISSIONS.

Our State Secretary, after giving interesting statistics of work performed, and results accomplished, &c., during the last Conventional year, says: "The facts and statistics of the year's work are inspiring. But much remains to be done. Our present annual income is inadequate to meet the calls upon us for missionary labor. New villages and towns are springing up along our new and old lines of railroad, to which missionaries must be sent. Vast sections of our country are still destitute of Baptist preaching. We cannot withdraw our forces from a single point we are occupying—hence if the gospel standard is to be planted in these towns and villages, and destitute country regions, our income must be enlarged. We need not less than \$12,000 for State work this year." We find that, toward making up the above-named amount, the Tuskegee Association is requested to raise \$488.88.

HOME MISSIONS.

The following is extracted from the minutes of our last State Convention: "In the recent report made by this Board to the Southern Baptist Convention, its showing for the past year was most encouraging, and its outlook for the future brightening. The Board is prosecuting with vigor every department of its work. * * * * The State of Alabama contributed to this work during the past year \$2,400, an advance of 150 per cent, on the contributions of the previous year. For the present year, in the apportionment of amounts to meet the new demands of the Board,

“\$5,000 is expected from our State Convention.” Of this amount, our Association is expected to contribute \$203.70.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Surely this cause is precious to all our hearts. Let us cherish it more and more. We gather the following extracts from different sources: “The outlook of Foreign Missions was never more encouraging.” “The world is now opened to the preaching of the gospel.” “The Board has missionaries in Mexico, Brazil, Africa, Italy and China. These missionaries have native assistants laboring with them. The number of brethren and sisters laboring in these foreign fields is 38, and the number of native assistants is 30—total, 68. The members of our Foreign Mission churches number 1,032; the pupils in the schools, 564; baptized last year, 124.” “In six weeks our most distant fields may be reached.” “True science, education and literary culture are mainly in the hands of Christians. All false religions of the world are founded on ignorance and superstition, and they only stand because of the ignorance of the people.” “Christians are in the possession of a vast amount of the wealth of the world. The richest nations on earth are Christian nations. It is estimated that 685,000,000, or nearly one-half the population of the globe, are under Christian governments. There are some 57,000,000 in evangelical churches. What a vast army with railroads, steam vessels, printing presses, learning, wealth, and the promise that Jesus will be with them alway, even unto the end of the world! Who, or what can withstand this army of the Lord? This grand army is moving on to victory and to glory.”

COST OF THE WORK.

“The amount received in 1882-’83 to support our missionaries and their work was \$56,804.56. Of this sum \$4,359.64, or nearly 8 per cent., was spent for home administration proper, and \$6,139.70, or about 11 per cent., was spent for agency work in the States, and special publications, etc., ordered by the Convention.” It seems, from these figures, that over 80 per cent. of the money collected during the last Conventional year for Foreign Missions went into the hands of our missionaries, for them and their work. If this be so, let us have no more complaint from those who have been saying that they object to missions, because it (as they say) takes nine dollars to send one to the missionaries.

Our State Board respectfully requests that our Association pay, during the next Associational year, the sum of \$203.70 for Foreign Missions.

Our State Board also requests that “judicious committees be appointed to distribute the amounts asked for among the churches.”

The Board asks “that each Association will appoint a committee of three brethren, with whom it may advise on any matter pertaining to its work, and through whom it may communicate with the churches; and that the names of the brethren composing the committee be reported to the Corresponding Secretary.”

Respectfully submitted.

G. D. BENTON, *Chairman.*

This report was enthusiastically spoken to by Brethren Blackwelder, Benton, Hart and Bledsoe; after which the pastors and representatives from the several churches promised to try to raise the following sums for all Missions at the next Association meeting:

Auburn, \$40; Antioch, \$25; Salem, \$25; Crawford, Cubahatchee, Laplace, Philadelphia, each \$20; County Line and Rocky Mount, each \$15; Ebenezer, Friendship, Girard, Brownville, Providence, Pleasant Grove,

Loachapoka, Notasulga, each \$10; Elam, Good Hope, Shiloh, what they can; Tuskegee, \$200; Opelika, \$100; Oswichee, \$40; Seale, \$60; Society Hill, \$5.

On motion adjourned to 2 P. M. Benediction by Rev. C. W. Buck.

—
TWO O'CLOCK P. M.

Business resumed by prayer by Rev. T. F. Threadgill.

Report on Sunday Schools read, as follows:

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The importance and influence of the Sunday School work is now felt and acknowledged all over our land. But, while this is so, many professed Christians do not give this great work the consideration and encouragement which its importance demands.

That this Association may not only feel and acknowledge the importance of this work, but be stirred up to renewed and more energetic effort to advance it, is the object of th's report. How is this to be done? Pastors of churches must become the leaders of the Sunday School, making this a part of their pastoral work. They must see that the best church members are selected for officers of the school, and especially that the right man is selected for a Superintendent; a man whose soul is in his work; a man of leading ability, of deep piety, and of devotion to Christ's cause. He should be possessed of the spirit of his Master, to win as well as to teach.

The pastor should see that proper means are furnished by the church to defray the necessary expenses of the school. Perhaps no more responsible duty could rest upon a Chr'st'an worker, than that of training children in the ways of truth; therefore, the pastor and superintendent should see that those who are selected as teachers are men and women adapted to their work; not only apt to teach, but lovers of children for Christ's sake.

Parents should be aroused to a sense of their responsibility. If possible, they should, instead of sending them to the school, say to their children, "Come, let us go," and manifest the interest they should feel.

When pastors are all, as they should be, eminently Sunday School men, and parents recognize their responsibility, then the Sunday School becomes a power both in the community and to the church. Every church member should be a member of the Sunday School in some capacity, and all be more consecrated to the work for Christ.

Respectfully submitted.

A. J. SIMPSON, *Chairman.*

Brethren Howard, of Seale, and C. S. Johnson, of Beulah, spoke with much interest upon the Sunday School Work and Religious Training. The rising generation is the material with which we are to build for Jesus.

The Report on Education was read by the Chairman of the Committee, Rev. F. A. Threadgill, and adopted, as follows:

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

The wonderful extent to which all the facilities are developed by education can only be appreciated after long and extensive observation. The mind grows more vigorous, its scope of view is widened, objects for investigation become more interesting; it renders the mind a better absorbent, enabling it to imbibe more knowledge from every source; life becomes more radiant, is filled with more and higher emotions, and the man is placed more in line with God; he is better prepared to search the scriptures and to comprehend their truths; he is thus better fitted to fill any office in church or state.

Education develops the nervous system; the touch becomes more active and vigorous. In our factories, the educated can weave more cloth in a day; will feel more concern for the employer; turn to profit everything that comes to hand; save more from waste. Besides all these advantages, it is an exalted satisfaction, indeed, to be associated with thinking, elastic and energetic minds.

Educated labor in every department is worth more, commands a larger salary. By education the whole being is enlarged. Although education expresses knowledge, this is not all—it is *character* itself. It aids to restrain passions, inspires true and worthy motives, instills deep and religious feeling, and inculcates pure morality. This is not all—a child trained in this way, has a character which is permanent. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Such an education is within reach of all. Sherman, Franklin, and many others, emerged from the work-hops, and shone as brightly in the world as the most profound scholar from college. Such men prove the doctrine of the well known maxim—"Quisque faber est sua fortuna"—that is, "Every man is the architect of his own fortune." In other words, every man is the divinity that shapes his own career. Let those who expect to win a high position in life, profit by the maxim.

An old poet has said :

"Attempt the end—never stand to doubt,
Nothing so hard, but search will find it out."

Thus, education viewed merely in the light of discipline, is *Pluck*, without which there can be no grand attainments in any enterprise. These attainments, whether of fame, fortune, or position, must be reached by bravely striking and living to a thing till it is accomplished. Education stores the mind with rich treasures of knowledge, into which "thieves cannot break through, nor steal."

The educated mind is a store-house, whose dimensions cannot be measured. You may pour into it streams of knowledge, through a whole life time, still it continues to thirst for more, and each fresh draught is welcomed with greater joy. The mechanic knows best how to use his tools; the educated man knows best how to use knowledge, which is wisdom. Wisdom, when applied, looks to the past, is careful of the present, and provides for things to come. Wisdom is the principal thing, "seek wisdom."

We are highly gratified to learn of the prosperity of our denominational schools at Marion and Tuscaloosa. They are doing efficient work for the denomination, and should be sustained by us.

F. A. TUREADGILL.

On ballot, Brownville, Lee county, was chosen for the next place of meeting. Thursday, 10 o'clock A. M., before the third Sabbath in October, 1884.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

E. W. SOLOMONS, *Treasurer.*

In Account with TUSKEGEE ASSOCIATION.

1882.	DR.	
October—To	Minute Fund	\$ 46 20
" "	Bro. Brown's family	9 30
" "	Sent up by the Churches	408 47
" "	Sabbath collection	66 20
" "	From W. C. Saunders, of Opelika Church	25 00
" "	Mrs. Orr	2 00
" "	Salem Church Colportage	5 00

1882.	CR.	\$562 43
October—By Minute Money paid the Clerk.....	\$ 46 20	
" " Amount Bro. Brown's family paid W. W. Evans.....	9 30	
" " Amount paid Eld. F. M. Bailey, Sec. S. M. B.....	479 67	
" " Amount paid Treasurer Howard College.....	27 25	

Salem Oct 4 1883

E. W. SOLOMONS, *Treasurer*

Audited and found correct

A. N. ADAMS,
G. W. DAWSON,
D. P. MEADERS

Adopted.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

We find a great many of the Church Letters made out in bad form, and the Committee has experienced no little trouble in ascertaining the direction they wish their contributions to go. We recommend that the Clerk be instructed to procure Printed Forms for these letters, and forward them to the different Churches comprising the Association, before our next meeting. We also find that while some of the Churches have done their whole duty in contributing for Missions, there are others that have fallen very far short. In fact some have given nothing at all. We would recommend to the Pastors of these different Churches, that they explain to them the meaning of Missionary Baptist, and try to instill into them a spirit commensurate with the meaning of the name they bear.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. H. BICKERSTAFF, *Chairman.*
J. C. CHENEY,
J. M. MATTHEWS.

STANDING COMMITTEES—TO REPORT AT NEXT SESSION.

MISSIONS—T. W. Hart, A. N. Adams, S. W. Harris.

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE—Z. D. Roby, E. S. McWhorter, A. M. McElhaney.

TEMPERANCE—W. E. Lloyd, W. T. B. Lineb, D. S. Duffee.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—F. A. Threadgill, E. M. Swareengen, D. W. Floyd.

EDUCATION—C. W. Buck, W. J. Howard, A. G. Simpson.

INDIGENT MINISTERS—G. D. Benton, F. T. Hudson, J. C. Cheney.

It is earnestly requested that each member of the Committees will prepare his report, and if not present, will send his written report up to the Association by his delegates.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE—W. E. Lloyd, Z. D. Roby, F. A. Threadgill.

The following was offered by Z. D. Roby :

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to revise the Constitution.

Adopted.

Revision Committee—Roby, Howard, Hart.

On motion of W. E. Lloyd, the Treasurer be ordered to pay to the Clerk, the money sent up for Minutes; and the Clerk be ordered to print, and distribute minutes to the churches *pro rata* of funds sent up.

The following was offered by T. W. Hart :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Tuskegee Association are due, and are hereby tendered to the brethren and sisters of Opelika Church, and citizens of Opelika and vicinity, for their hospitality and kindness to the delegates of the Association during the session; and that this resolution be printed in the Minutes and Opelika paper.

Moved to appoint a Committee to arrange a programme for the next session, so as to expedite the business and equalize the discussions.

Committee—Cheney, Lloyd, Roby.

On motion, the Clerks of churches are requested to report the amount of pastor's salary subscribed, and amount paid; amount of church property, &c., &c.

Adopted.

On motion, the amounts paid to Bro. D. S. Duffee in his work as Association Missionary not be reported in the Finance Table, but be appended as a note to the Minutes.

Report of money and pledges on my salary for services as Missionary and Missionary Pastor, for the year 1883:

County Line, \$75; Providence, \$25; Antioch, \$30; Good Hope, \$60; Shiloh, \$60; Cubahatchee, \$23; Friendship, \$100; Ebenezer, \$125; other contributions, \$6. Total, \$504.

D. S. DUFFEE,
Missionary.

The Committee on Documents failed to make a report; hence there was no official answers given to the Queries sent up in the letters.

Not knowing what preachers would probably be at the next Association Meeting, preachers to deliver the Introductory and Missionary Sermons were not appointed, but will be chosen at the time.

On motion, adjourned to meet with the Brownville Church on Thursday before the third Sunday in October, 1884.

W. THOMPSON, *Moderator.*

C. W. BUCK, *Clerk.*

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This body shall be called the TUSKEGEE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, composed of messengers chosen from the different churches constituting it, holding annual sessions at such time and places as it may select.

ART. 2. Believing that churches are independent religious bodies, owing allegiance only to Christ, this Association claims no right to interfere authoritatively with their internal concerns.

ART. 3. The Association shall elect from its membership, at each annual session, by ballot, a Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, and an Executive Committee, composed of five brethren, who shall hold their offices until their successors are chosen.

ART. 4. The Moderator shall preside over the body, appoint all committees, unless otherwise instructed, and decide all points of order by the rules in Mell's Parliamentary Practice, subject to an appeal to the body.

ART. 5. The Clerk shall keep a record of the proceedings, direct the printing and distribution of the Minutes, and perform such other duties as belong to his office.

ART. 6. The Treasurer shall take charge of the money and general property of the Association; report in writing, at each annual session, the condition of the finances, exhibiting vouchers for all sums paid out; and at the expiration of his term, deliver to his successor the property of the Association in hand.

ART. 7. The Executive Committee may fill vacancies occurring in its membership, and shall, under the direction of the Association, manage its business during its adjournment.

ART. 8. At each session, committees of three shall be appointed to report, in writing, the following subjects: Preaching, Finance, Auditing, Documents, Sunday Schools, Missions, Deceased Ministers, Education, and Temperance.

ART. 9. Churches wishing to become members of this body, must petition by letter or messengers, and, if found to be scriptural in doctrine and practice, be received to fellowship by vote of the Association, and welcomed by the Moderator.

ART. 10. Churches wishing to change their membership, may petition by letter or messenger, and, if in fellowship with the body, be dismissed in due form. Any infringement of the laws of this Association, or departure from the faith and practice of the Scriptures by a church, will be a cause of complaint against such church, and will subject it to the discipline of the body.

ART. 11. Messengers, before being enrolled as members, must present evidence of their appointment, giving also the number of the membership of their church, the number received during the past year by baptism, letter and restoration, the number dismissed, expelled and dead, with an account of all the money given to the support of the gospel and general benevolence, the condition of the Sunday School, with statistics, prayer meetings, and other good works engaged in by their churches.

ART. 12. Each church shall be entitled to two messengers; when the membership is fifty, to three; and one for every additional twenty-five.

ART. 13. Amendments to the Constitution may be made by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

ART. 14. The Minutes of the Association must be read, approved, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before final adjournment.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in the existence of one only living God, and that he has made himself known to his people under the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, the same in essence and every Divine perfection.

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of Faith and Practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election; that God chose in Christ Jesus from before the foundation of the world to save them that believed, that they should be holy and without blame before him in love, having predestinated them unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his grace.

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

5. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and ability.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated, sanctified, by the Holy Ghost.

8. We believe that nothing can separate true believers from the love of God, but that they will be kept by the power of God, through faith, unto salvation, ready to be revealed in the last time.

9. We believe that *Baptism* and the *Lord's Supper* are ordinances of the Church of Christ; that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances; and that immersion only is baptism.

10. We believe in the resurrection and the general judgment.

11. We believe the punishment of the *wicked* will be eternal, and the joy of the righteous will be everlasting.

12. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances only such as are called of God, as was Aaron, and come under the imposition of hands by a presbytery, and in fellowship with the church of which he is a member.

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES

CHURCHES.	POST-OFFICES.	PASTORS OR BISHOPS.		CLERKS.
		Day of Meeting.	Sunday School.	
Auburn	W. M. Blackwelder	A. F. McElhaney	52	S. S.
Warrior Stand	D. S. Biffle (Missionary)	I. F. Johns	52	1 & 3
Lively	E. G. White	A. A. White	50	1 & 3
Mott's Mills	No pastor	Q. W. Harris	28	S. S.
Nousalga	F. L. Hudson	N. Langley	38	S. S.
Salem	D. S. Biffle	H. C. Peterson	37	S. S.
Crawford	G. D. Benton	J. W. Grimes	28	1 S. S.
Shorter's Station	D. S. Biffle	E. S. McWhorter	24	4 S. S.
Auburn	F. T. Hudson	Chas. Ingley	31	1 S. S.
Dick's Creek	D. S. Biffle	J. M. F. Parker	38	2
Hatchetchinbee	D. S. Biffle	L. C. Cooley	22	2
Columbus, Ga.	G. D. Benton (Missionary)	J. H. Mathews	50	1 S. S.
La Place	J. A. Pace	S. C. Cloud	89	3 S. S.
Opelika	J. C. S. Johnson	R. B. Wright	50	20
Loachapoka	W. H. Bedell	W. W. Bradford	10	1 S. S.
Glenville	L. P. Cheney	W. G. Bradford	36	3 S. S.
Nousalga	J. J. Chon	H. H. Armstrong	10	1 S. S.
Oswiechee	Z. D. R. Howard	Jno. J. Smith	30	Reg. 1 S. S.
Smith's Station	J. A. Howard	Jno. C. Cheney	41	1 S. S.
Salem	D. S. Biffle (Missionary)	S. L. Mullens	204	180
Providence	D. S. Biffle	A. W. Gilbert	10	Reg. 1 S. S.
Pleasant Grove	C. W. Buck	D. W. Eckles	1	44
Wacoochee Valley	C. S. Johnson	J. M. Allen	5	20
Society Hill	G. D. Benton	Jno. Richardson	1	47
Seale	J. A. Howard	T. J. Threadgill	1	4
Crawford	W. E. Lloyd	G. W. Hugley	7	6
Salem	W. E. Lloyd	D. W. Floyd	17	45
Tuskegee	W. E. Lloyd	2	44	
Union Grove	D. S. Biffle	1	36	
God's Hope	God's Hope	1	110	
Okeloke	Okeloke	2	90	
Uteke	Uteke	7	1	
		1	77	
		1	43	
		1	1	



